

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APP. NO. 09/900,460

REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application prior to this Amendment. This Amendment cancels claims 2, 6 and 11.

Claims 1-7, 10-17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1.102(e) as being unpatentable over Veltman et al (U.S. Patent Publication # 2002/0152311).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Asami et al (U.S. Patent Publication # 2001/0023459).

Claims 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Bhatia et al (US Patent 6,052,803).

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Bhatia et al in further view of Asami et al.

Analysis of the Claim Rejections

In rejecting claims 1-7, 10-17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1.102(e) as being unpatentable over Veltman et al, the examiner provides reasoning purporting to show that Veltman et al teaches each element of all the claims. Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 10 are patentable for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 provides:

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wherein the DNS server, if any one of the information appliances connected to the internal network makes an inquiry about a public IP address through the domain name with respect to an information appliance connected to the external network, provides the requested public IP address through an inquiry about the public IP address to an authorized DNS server connected to the external network.

In rejecting claim 6, from which this limitation is taken, the Examiner refers to paragraphs 74, 75 and 80, and Figs. 4 and 5 of Veltman as teaching these features. Applicant submits, however, that the portions of Veltman referenced by the Examiner do not teach or suggest anything with regard to the public IP address or domain name with respect to an information appliance connected to the external network. Rather, the portions of Veltman referenced by the Examiner relate to the devices connected to the internal network. Further, Veltman does not teach the limitations of claim 6 elsewhere in the document. Applicant submits that claim 6 is not anticipated by Veltman at least because Veltman fails to disclose this feature.

Regarding claim 10, this claim provides:

wherein the step for providing the information on the information appliances connected to the internal network in response to the access request from the information appliance connected to the external network includes steps of:

providing a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network; and

providing, if any one of the information appliances is selected from the provided list, contents for controlling the selected information appliance.

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In rejecting claim 11, from which these features are taken, the Examiner refers to paragraphs 46, 47, 99, 100, and 101 of Veltman as teaching these features. Applicant submits, however, that the portions of Veltman cited by the Examiner, or other portions of Veltman, do not teach providing a list of the information appliances connected to the network.

Regarding the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Asami et al, we note that Asami et al has a filing date of February 28, 2001, which is after the priority date of September 19, 2000 of the present application. Inasmuch as priority has already been perfected in this application, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection. The same applies to the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Bhatia et al in further view of Asami et al.

Regarding the rejection of claims 9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Veltman et al in view of Bhatia et al, Applicant submits that claim 9 is patentable at least because neither of the references teaches or suggests

wherein the DNS server, if any one of the information appliances connected to the internal network makes an inquiry about a public IP address through the domain name with respect to an information appliance connected to the external network, provides the requested public IP address through an inquiry about the public IP address to an authorized DNS server connected to the external network.

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Applicant submits that claim 18 is patentable at least because neither of the references teaches or suggests:

wherein the step for providing the information on the information appliances connected to the internal network in response to the access request from the information appliance connected to the external network includes steps of:

providing a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network; and

providing, if any one of the information appliances is selected from the provided list, contents for controlling the selected information appliance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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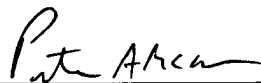
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